

Frederick HealthCare Coalition - Affordability Committee
Meeting Notes – June 19, 2007

Present: Chair - Pat Hanberry, MHA; Maria Shuck, FMH; Nicole Huff; Carol Antoniewicz, Sally Familton; Ken Eidel, Abilities Network; Pat Rosensteel, Head Start.

Upcoming:

- Needs Assessment will hold a July 9 press conference with County Commissioners to roll out the phone survey. Survey will begin the next week for two weeks. There will be focus groups with allied health.
- FMH prenatal clinic is ready to open, still in search of OB/GYN.

Minutes from April were approved. New standard agenda items: news, gossip & rumors; update from Executive Committee. We did not meet in May; there was a full coalition meeting to elect Executive Committee.

Executive Committee:

Chair will be Jim Williams, Vice-chair & Treasurer – David Liddle, secretary - Dr. Gail Griffin. They will meet 1st & 3rd Monday at Health Dept. starting July 2, may form ad hoc committees. Initial focus is on the survey. We all need to encourage good participation. Needs assessment concerns were listened to by survey group. They did add “are you able to communicate with provider in a language you understand.” Focus group results will not be included in quantitative results.

Affordability business

- We clarified and set a **new goal: ensure that everyone in Frederick Co. is covered by comprehensive, affordable health insurance**. List of objectives was developed for advocacy and community education; see attached. Thanks to Pat Hanberry for writing them up.
- Sarah Penna, via message, suggested we join Health Care for All. We discussed whether we should work to get the full coalition to sign on, or join as Affordability Committee. We can support the goals of HCFA without signing on.
- We need to do outreach to increase our committee membership. Phil Killam and Sara are leaving the area. Phil had shared information about requirements for securing MUA/MUP designation (medically underserved area/population) needed to start a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC).
- Carol passed out post-cards in support of federal legislation for funding for school-based health centers. There will be a rally in D.C. on June 29. Learn more at Md. Assembly on School Based Health Care www.masbhc.org. There no federal funding stream at present.
- Letter to Weldon: Pat is sending a thank you for his support of health expansion legislation.

Next meeting July 17 at FMH.